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Parker Recognized at Reception

Sara Parker, Missouri State Librarian from 1995 to 2005, officially retired from the Secretary of State's office on December 31, 2005. Ms. Parker was appointed as State Librarian in June 1995 by former Secretary of State Bekki Cook.

During her tenure, Ms. Parker was instrumental in the development of critical statewide projects that improved services in libraries across Missouri, including the establishment of MOREnet, the creation of MOBIUS, and the establishment of the Secretary's Council on Library Development.

At a reception held in her honor on December 14, 2005, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan presented her with a statement extolling her ten years of service to the librarians and patrons of Missouri's library community.

Ms. Parker will enjoy her retirement in Barry County on property adjoining two beautiful creeks she has long enjoyed. Some would say she went out on a high note, as friends and staff of the Secretary of State's office serenaded her (below) with a modified version of "My Darling Clementine."



Sara Parker receives a statement from Secretary of State Robin Carnahan.



newsline (ISSN 1088-680X) is published monthly by the Library Development Division of the Missouri State Library, PO Box 387, Jefferson City, MO 65102; telephone 800-325-0131 in Missouri or 573-751-2680; fax 573-751-3612.

Contents of **newsline** may be reprinted with reference given to the publication and its date of issue.

The Missouri State Library is a division of the Secretary of State's Office.

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Check out **newsline online** (ISSN 1088-7237) at www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline/newsline.asp

Secretary Carnahan and the Secretary's Council on Library Development Approve Plan for Use of LSTA Funds in FY2007

Secretary Carnahan and the Council on Library Development have approved a plan to use approximately \$3 million in federal funds, which will be allocated to Missouri from the Library Services and Technology Act. State Library staff developed the plan to correspond with the two major purposes of LSTA: technology and information access, and targeted library services for special clientele. The plan carries out the goals identified in Missouri's Five Year State Plan for the use of LSTA funds.

The plan proposes \$805,000 for competitive grants for libraries. Library Cooperation grants will be available to all libraries to develop new programs in cooperation with library and community partners. Several new types of competitive grants will be offered for public libraries, including Technology Ladder, to improve their electronic service infrastructure; Web site Makeover, to develop or redesign a Web site for more effective service delivery; Assistive Technology, to meet the needs of patrons with special needs; and Teen Spaces, to develop unique places for teens within the library facility. Grants are also offered for summer library programs and senior fairs. Grant applications are available in February.

Statewide projects totaling \$1,472,001 include support for continuing education, Virtually Missouri, Show Me the World, and literacy projects. New workshops will be offered on Grantsmanship, Teen Spaces, and Bilingual Story Hours. Support for distance education will be expanded through No Limits Learning. Library staff will have an opportunity to learn 'Spanish that Works' to assist in interactions with Hispanic library users.

The plan includes \$819,706 in appropriations that must be approved by the General Assembly for services from the State Library and Wolfner Library.

The plan is available at www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/grants.asp.

State Library Receives Keppel Award for Statistical Data

For the first time in five years, Missouri received the Keppel Award for completing the 2004 public library data submission on time and correctly. Using the Bibliostat software, Michaela Hansen, Library Administration Consultant, verified the surveys collected, edited reports and converted the 2004 data file to the federal software Win-Plus. The 2004 data was posted on the SOS Web site by the end of 2005, much earlier than in prior years. The data is now available for public use in both pdf and Excel spreadsheet formats. Information compiled from the annual statistical survey is used by public libraries to secure improved funding, services, and programs.



Left to right: Alaska State Data Coordinator and Chair of the FSCS Steering Committee Patience Frederiksen; Michaela Hansen, of the Missouri State Library, and Neal Kaske, Director for Statistics and Surveys at the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

Trustee Continuing Education on Roles of Library Trustees and Hiring Practices

The State Library sponsors trustee continuing education that offers opportunities for public library board members to receive information about managing their roles and responsibilities, strategies that work in building a solid relationship with the library director and occasions to network with other library trustees from across the state. Issues related to financial and legal matters, strategic planning and library succession plans are also discussed and support is offered for better services and programs benefiting library users.

In November, the State Library, together with the SEMO Direct librarians' group, sponsored a Trustee Basics workshop presented by Ellen Miller, of the Ellen Miller Group, at the Cape Girardeau Public Library. Public library board roles and responsibilities, financial and legal issues and strategies for board meetings were discussed. This trustee continuing education workshop was attended by 20 participants from five library districts.

In December, the first presentation in the Series of Special Trustee Topics was broadcast via the videoconferencing network to six sites across the state. The topic of the first presentation was "Hire That Director." The presenter, Mary Pergander, Director of the Lake Bluff Public Library in Lake Bluff, Ill., discussed the hiring process and strategies to obtain the best candidate based on job descriptions and conducting interviews. This presentation benefited 29 participants from twelve library districts.

Including the 32 participants to the 2005 Trustee Academy held in May, 81 public library board members have participated in Trustee continuing education during 2005. The Series of Special Trustee Topics will be continued in 2006 with three other presentations broadcasted to eight sites across the state.

Trade Secrets Workshops

Missouri youth services staff came together in four locations to share ideas for serving youth better through cooperation and collaboration. The biennial Trade Secrets workshops provide staff that serve young people an opportunity to share ideas for successful programs, activities or services they have implemented in their public libraries. The workshops, held in Lexington, Gallatin, Lebanon and St. Peters, drew 48 participants representing 20 public libraries and one school library.

In Lexington, middle school librarian Terre Armstrong shared her ideas for "booktalking without talking," which focuses on providing innovative readers' advisory services with displays and marketing techniques. At the Gallatin workshop, Shelly Dodson of the Jewett Norris-Grundy County Library discussed her successful coffee house for teens, which provides them with opportunities to express themselves in a variety of art forms, including music, poetry, and painting. April Roy from Kansas City Public Library's Plaza Branch shared information about the successful collaboration with the Discovery Center to provide urban youth with opportunities to explore nature and natural science.

In St. Peters, Marilyn Phillips of the University City Public Library took the audience through the steps of her positive experience with a Missouri State Library Spotlight on Library Programs grant, which allowed her to schedule a visit by author Roland Smith to her library and the local school. Marilyn worked closely with the school administration and school librarian to successfully promote and implement the program, and she has seen several positive by-products from that initial collaboration with the school. These include more frequent communication with the school administration and library, development of the library's textbook collection, and the inclusion of ownership of a public library card as part of each student's list of "back to school supplies" in fall 2005.

Participants at the Lebanon workshop enjoyed hearing about Mary Ann Garrett's



Secretary of State Launches New Web Site

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan unveiled a new customer-focused Web site, www.sos.mo.gov, featuring a streamlined layout with convenient links for small business owners, voters, educators, investors, and genealogy researchers.

"My office is focused on providing outstanding service to our broad scope of customers and making information more accessible to all Missourians," said Carnahan. "The new Web site will make it easier for our customers to use the many services offered by the secretary of state's office and give all Missourians access to information about their state government."

Librarians will find that the new site is easier to navigate, and easier to access schedules and information on upcoming workshops and programs. This site also has a list of upcoming grants including descriptions and due dates, and information on state aid to libraries. A new literacy page has also been added to promote library literacy programs.

Patrons of Wolfner Library will find easier access to Wolf PAC, Wolfner's Public Access Catalogue, Web Braille documents, and news and recommended readings.

Continued on page 4

State Education Data Profiles

A new Web site allows searching for statewide information in elementary and secondary education, postsecondary education, public libraries and selected demographics for all states in the U.S. Four states can be selected to compare at one time.

U.S. averages and the ability to dynamically graph the results are also available. The data used for this tool comes from many NCES sources and has just been updated with 2003 public library information and 2004-05 postsecondary education information.

To use this data tool, please visit:
<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/stateprofiles/>.

(Springfield-Greene County Library, Midtown-Carnegie Branch) successful Edible Book Festival, Hot Dogami program (creating art using hot dogs as media), and poetry contests. Mary Ann also shared valuable tips about working with teens. Several audience members at Lebanon discussed developing “tween” advisory boards to help create and promote “tween” programs.

Library staff that attended the Trade Secrets workshops commented that the workshops provided invaluable networking opportunities to share diverse ideas from a creative community of librarians serving young people. The next Trade Secrets workshop is tentatively scheduled for September 2007.

Measuring Literacy

The *National Assessment of Adult Literacy* (NAAL) was released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a part of the U.S. Department of Education.

National and state literacy studies measure adults’ skills in three areas: “prose,” “document” and “quantitative” literacy.

- “Prose” literacy measurements involve working with continuous written material such as news articles.
- “Document” literacy evaluates how well adults read and understand materials such as bus schedules or labels on medicine bottles.
- “Quantitative” literacy measures how well adults handle tasks such as balancing a checkbook or comparing the cost-per-ounce on food price tags.

Literacy level descriptions used in both the *National Assessment of Adult Literacy* (NAAL) and *State Assessment of Adult Literacy* (SAAL) reports are based on the following categories:

- Proficient—can perform complex and challenging literacy activities
- Intermediate—can perform moderately challenging literacy activities
- Basic—can perform simple everyday literacy activities
- Below Basic—no more than the most simple and concrete literacy skills

At the same time, Missouri education officials announced the findings of a parallel

study that focused only on Missouri. Missouri was one of only six states that took part in a state-level study in conjunction with the national literacy assessment. About 1,000 Missouri adults were interviewed during 2003 and early 2004. The study was conducted for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Highlights of the findings include:

- The average literacy level of Missouri adults was significantly higher than the national average in all three areas measured.
- The portion of Missouri adults who ranked in the lowest skill category (below basic) also was significantly lower than the national average.
- The average literacy level of African-American adults in Missouri was significantly higher than the national average.
- The average literacy level of women in Missouri was significantly higher than the national average.
- 51% of Missouri adults scored at the intermediate level in prose literacy, which means a person can perform moderately challenging literacy tasks. This figure is significantly higher than the national average of 44%.
- In addition, only 7% of Missouri adults scored at the lowest level (below basic) on prose literacy. This is half the national rate.

The national report is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/naal/>, and additional Missouri information is available at <http://dese.mo.gov/>.

Museums and Libraries: Engaging America’s Youth

At the November 2005 meeting of the National Museum and Library Services Board, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announced a new initiative, *Museums and Libraries: Engaging America’s Youth* (www.imls.gov/youth/), which underscores the importance of creating communities where young people have opportunities to learn and belong.

Youth development experts and public

policy makers increasingly recognize the importance of community institutions in formal learning as well as the informal learning that can take place after and out of school. Libraries and museums can work together with other community partners to create an environment for positive youth development. The recently released “Community Guide to Helping America’s Youth” (www.helpingamericasyouth.gov) is a tool to help communities assess their needs and resources, build partnerships, and find program designs that can be replicated. It identifies the steps involved for building strong support for youth and enhancing positive youth development.

Karen Pittman, executive director of the Forum for Youth Investment and a special guest at the National and Library Services Board meeting, noted that “young people don’t grow up in programs but in families and communities.” She pointed out that young people spend only about one-third of their time in schools and talked about the importance of filling out of school time productively. Libraries, as centers for education, information and recreation, are environments that can help young people make positive life choices. Working with community partners, libraries can create community settings that are supportive of youth and their positive development.

The Role of Museums and Libraries

Libraries and museums that make serving youth central to their mission can help young people acquire twenty-first century skills like increasing global awareness, building information literacy and increasing self-reliance. They can help young people learn about and express cultural traditions and connect to history, art, culture and science both online and in their communities. Libraries and museums can provide opportunities for civic engagement that involve family, schools and community partners.

Libraries and museums that make youth development a priority also benefit; youth bring vitality and help cultural institutions stay relevant and build lasting community

relationships. By working with young people both in and out of school, libraries and museums can make a difference in the lives of America’s youth and in the quality of community life.

The Initiative

In the coming year, the Institute will place a spotlight on the role of the *Museums and Libraries Engaging America’s Youth* initiative. The initiative will focus primarily on young people aged 9–19. During the next year, the Institute will develop case studies to explore best practices, provide monthly updates with project profiles, resources and tips on its Web site, and encourage the development of new models through its National Leadership Grant program. Next fall, the Institute will convene a national conference and publish the results of its analyses and case studies.

Resources, links, and updates on the Institute’s *Museums and Libraries Engaging America’s Youth* initiative are available at www.imls.gov/youth.

The IMLS is an independent federal grant-making agency dedicated to creating and sustaining a nation of learners by helping libraries and museums serve their communities. The Institute fosters leadership, innovation, and a lifetime of learning by supporting the 15,000 museums and 122,000 libraries in America. The Institute also encourages partnerships to expand the educational benefit of libraries and museums. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

NEA Pilots Big Read Programs

The National Endowment for the Arts has announced the allocation of \$265,000 in funding to underwrite Big Read pilot programs in ten communities.

Four books that will be highlighted as part of the pilot are *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury; *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald; *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston; and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

Four communities will be reading *Fahrenheit 451*: Enterprise, Ore., Miami, Buffalo, and Boise. The two communities reading *Gatsby* are Little Rock and Huntsville, Ala., while Fresno and Brookings/Sioux Falls, S.D., are reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*. *Their Eyes Were Watching God* will be read by Minneapolis and Topeka.



Missouri Library News

newsline welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

City Library Tops Rankings in National Literacy Study

The St. Louis Public Library received a first place ranking in the Library Category in a study conducted by Central Connecticut State University on America's Most Literate Cities. Overall, the City of St. Louis ranked 15th among the 69 largest cities. To view the study's results in depth, visit www.ccsu.edu/Amlc/overview.htm.

Library Construction and Expansions Across the State

Local community officials and members of the Barry-Lawrence County Library Board gathered on October 13 to break ground for the Marionville branch's new facility. The new library will be 5,900 square feet and feature a children's area, teen area, computer work stations, a reading and lounge area, and a 1,020 square foot meeting room for library programs and public use. Library officials hope to have the new library completed by spring 2006.

The Desloge Public Library is planning to double in size as city offices are moved into the new Desloge City Hall. The library will have the entire building of the former City Hall. Renovations to the building will likely take place in January or February.

Heavy rains on November 15 caused severe leaking and damage to the roof of the La Plata Public Library. The library is very close to raising the estimated \$7,000 to \$10,000 to replace the roof.

The Taneyhills Community Library is nearing completion of a new wing set to open in mid-2006.

The Middendorf-Kredell Library branch of the St. Charles City-County Library District is undergoing a 10,000 square foot expansion

to accommodate more patrons, materials, and meeting space. The construction is expected to be completed in late summer 2006.

Puxico Public Library Receives New Books Through Grant

The Puxico Public Library received 65 new children's books through a grant from the Libri Foundation. The Foundation, founded in 1989, donates millions of dollars to help rural libraries expand their selection of children's books through a program called Books For Children.

Extra Hours a Positive Step

Kansas City Public Library officials are being praised in an editorial piece in the *Kansas City Star* for reviewing the use of the main library and its nine branches and adjusting hours and services. The Plaza branch's hours have been adjusted so that it is open longer than the other branches from Thursdays through Sundays. Some other branches were also kept open longer, while others were scaled back. For a complete list of the new library hours, visit the library's Web site at www.kclibrary.org.

Libraries Responding to State Budget Cuts by Raising Fees

The Jefferson County Public Library is now requiring all Internet access users to be cardholders due to cuts in state funding. Nonresidents of Jefferson County will now be required to pay \$5 per month or \$60 per year for a family membership. Residents of Jefferson County are not required to pay additional fees for Internet access. The library lost about \$16,000 in state aid in fiscal year 2005 on top of an increase of \$3000 per year for MOREnet service.

The Barry-Lawrence Regional Library will charge a late fee of five cents per day per item for materials not returned within the two-week checkout period. The library will receive \$23,327 less in state aid and state equalization appropriations this year. The library will also assess a \$1.00 postage

fee for books borrowed on interlibrary loan due to the increase in postage rates.

St. Louis County Library Opens Asian Center at Daniel Boone Branch

The St. Louis County Library, Daniel Boone Branch, opened an Asian Center on November 12, 2005. The 2,000 square foot center will house books, periodicals, videos, and reference materials specifically for the

Asian community. Most of the materials will be in Chinese, as the West County area has a significant Chinese community. The Asian Center has its own staff and circulation system as well as three Internet accessible computers. The opening of the Asian Center is part of an overall outreach effort to support the Asian community. For more information about the Asian Center, visit their website at

www.slcl.lib.mo.us/branches/ac/history.htm.

Continued progress in the Virtually Missouri program

Virtually Missouri, the statewide digitization project, is undergoing major changes. The project is currently in its sixth year as one of the leading statewide digitization efforts nationwide.

An increasing number of libraries, museums, archives and historical societies have recognized the importance of making historic collections accessible and searchable via the Web. Digital imaging technologies have also matured considerably, and there have been widespread developments in standards and best practices for digitization. The Missouri State Library has put in place changes enabling continued project growth and the ability to stay abreast of technological advances.

Carl Wingo, Consultant for Technology and Digitization Services at the Missouri State Library, is now the statewide project manager for Virtually Missouri. His activities center on expanding outreach to the cultural heritage community and content recruitment, both for the Virtually Missouri metadata database and for the Digital Imaging Grant program. He joins Tracy Byerly of the Missouri Library Network Corporation (MLNC) in speaking on behalf of the statewide project at the regional outreach meetings and at professional conferences and workshops.

The State Library has purchased a statewide license to the ContentDM image management system. This will enable users to do one combined search across all types of digital media in the Virtually Missouri database and will bring the project into compliance with the Open Archives Initiative standard for metadata harvesting. The Missouri State Library will be distributing ContentDM's Acquisition Station software for creating/importing metadata and images to participants in the Virtually Missouri project.

MLNC will continue to play an important role in providing support for the statewide Digitization Planning Committee, doing promotional work, and offering training workshops and organizing conferences. Six regional outreach meetings are planned for this year, with institutions that have previously received federal Library Services and Technology Act Digital Imaging Grants doing outreach and hosting the meetings in their areas.

For more information about Virtually Missouri, or to find out how you can participate, contact Carl at 800-325-0131, ext. 9 or via e-mail to Carl.Wingo@sos.mo.gov.

Visit the Virtually Missouri Web site at www.virtuallymissouri.org to see existing collections, do keyword searching in the metadata database, or to learn about standards and best practices for metadata, scanning, and copyright.

Keeping Up Online Launched

Under the guidance of Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, the Reference Services Division of the State Library made its newspaper clipping service, Keeping Up, accessible to the general public by launching Keeping Up Online.

Since 1976, Keeping Up's purpose has been to provide Missouri state personnel with current information about state agencies and issues by making available articles that have been published in a representative sample of Missouri newspapers.

Keeping Up and Keeping Up Online are provided through agreements with newspaper publishers and produced with the intent of providing a comprehensive, focused, timely, non-partisan daily compilation of news articles from a wide selection of Missouri newspapers.



Personal Notes

Washington Public Library Director Retires

Carolyn Witt retired as director of Washington Public Library on November 28, 2005, after serving as the city librarian for more than 24 years.

Rolling Hills Consolidated Library Announces New Director

Barbara Read has been named director of the Rolling Hills Consolidated Library System. Read has been interim director for the Library while the library board looked for a new director.

Mountain View Public Library Director Retires

Lois Heiney retired December 31, 2005 after spending seven years at the Mountain View Public Library. Beth Gilbert will take over duties of library director at Mountain View Public Library in January 2006.

Carnahan Awards LSTA Grants to Libraries

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan recently awarded the following grants to Missouri libraries. Grant funds are provided by the federal Library Services and Technology Act program and total \$482,277. More information about the LSTA grant funds offered by the State Library is available at www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/grants.asp.

After School Connections Grant

Springfield-Greene County Library - \$3,389—In a program called “Making a Difference (MAD) Productions at Midtown,” the Young Adult Librarian will work with a community leader and interns from a Missouri State University African - American Studies class to provide an after school program for middle school students living in one of the lowest income areas in the city. The students will learn to use library resources to research background information for writing the script and designing the props and costumes.

Discoveries for Seniors Grant

Bloomfield Public Library - \$500—This library will hold a series of seminars on subjects in which seniors have expressed an interest.

Jefferson County Library - \$8,464—A series of four programs entitled the “Price of Progress” at each of JCL’s three branches will be provided in conjunction with the MU Extension Office in Jefferson County and the Jefferson County Community Partnership. The series will provide information and tools for working through problems in county government, redevelopment/development issues, and transportation problems resulting from population growth.

Rolling Hills Consolidated Library - \$980—The library will provide a series of programs that will include storytelling, music, and collections to engage seniors’ interests in library resources.

Spotlight on Library Programs Grant

Bonne Terre Memorial Library - \$373—The library will conduct two computer classes for older adults, with the goal of attracting seniors who may not otherwise visit the library.

Bonne Terre Memorial Library - \$868—The library will conduct two workshops to help interested patrons become familiar with digital photography.



Cape Girardeau Public Library - \$820—The library is collaborating with Y.E.L.L., a local literacy group, and a nearby library to contract with a Kansas City author and illustrator to present a program to children and their caregivers.

Riverside Regional Library - \$895—The Riverside Library is collaborating with the Cape Girardeau Library to contract with a Kansas City author and illustrator to present a program to children and their caregivers.

Oregon County Library - \$450—The library will provide a magic program targeted to childcare agencies and summer schools that will promote libraries, books and fun at two of its branch outlets.

Pulaski County Library - \$750—The library will provide two magic programs to attract more children to the summer library program and will focus on motivating children to develop a love for reading. These programs are designed to be educational, incorporating the topic of the Summer Library Program.

Albany Carnegie Public Library - \$1,100—A performer will portray Andrew Carnegie during a library centennial celebration. This presentation will inform and educate library patrons and guests of the life of Mr. Carnegie.

Bring in an Expert Grant

Lenora Blackmore Public Library - \$2,261—An expert will provide guidance in collection management such as weeding, stack arrangement and staff development as well as developing and updating policies and bylaws, organizing a library handbook and meeting library standards.

Marshall Public Library - \$5,000—An expert in the Public Library Association's "Planning for Results" program will orient the staff and library board and implement the process.

North Kansas City Public Library - \$1,000—A one-day seminar will include defining library board and staff roles, enhancing board/staff relationships, and establishing priorities, goals, and objectives for the next Strategic Plan.

Rolling Hills Consolidated Library - \$2,690—An expert will assist the library administration and staff with teambuilding and in developing a cohesive, integrated workplace.

St. Charles Community College Library - \$3,691—An expert will provide training regarding a basic understanding of information literacy, different learning paradigms, curriculum mapping, and techniques that support active learning.

Planning and Standards Grant

University of Missouri-Rolla-Curtis Laws Wilson Library/Office of Sponsored Programs - \$5,000—A consultant will conduct an assessment of the library space and assist in engaging the campus community in a collaborative planning process.

Training and Professional Development Grant

Curators of University of Missouri-Columbia/Ellis Library - \$10,884—Three nationally known experts will teach on the topics of open access, open source and open courseware to librarians, library staff, administrators, faculty and students in Missouri's higher education institutions.

KC Metropolitan Library and Information Network - \$806—This grant involves two teleconferences featuring panelists who will discuss leading-edge issues faced by librarians from the College of DuPage Library Learning Network's series Library Challenges and Opportunities.

KC Metropolitan Library and Information Network - \$2,311—The library will hold a workshop titled "Cultural Diversity Competence in the Library Workplace" that is designed to provide training for library staff working in a multi-ethnic community.

KC Metropolitan Library and Information Network - \$2,786—The library will hold workshops titled "Introduction to Governance" and "Library Collaboration and Partnerships" that

Sound Recording Missed in Digitization Effort

A Library of Congress study shows historical sound recordings are inaccessible and have not been digitized with other historical documents.

have been designed to provide a critical foundation for library staff to build their knowledge, skills, and abilities in these two important areas.

Missouri Library Network Corporation - \$2,568—This workshop goes beyond the basics of customer service and introduces managers and staff to unique issues facing libraries when dealing with a changing patron base and evolving programs and services, including a wide range of potential customers, virtual customers, and internal departments.

St. Joseph Public Library - \$649—A four-hour training session titled “Exceptional Customer Service” will be presented by KCMLIN.

St. Louis Public Library - \$6,385—Children’s literature workshops will be presented to teach staff about new fiction for elementary school age children, including information on genres, trends in publishing, current series titles and books for reluctant readers.

Computer Training Lab Grant

St. Joseph Public Library - \$17,725—The library will establish a mobile computer training lab that will be used at four library branches.

Jefferson County/NW Subdistrict - \$21,152—The library will establish a computer lab and printable whiteboard to provide training for library staff and patrons.

Boonslick Regional Library - \$123,988—The library will purchase laptops and accessories to provide for four computer labs to serve all four counties in its system.

Library Technology Enhancement Automation Grant

Cape Girardeau Public Library - \$42,089—The library will move from an outmoded character-based automation system to an up-to-date graphical Web-based system.

Sedalia Public Library - \$35,372—The library will replace their current automation system in order to update functionality and provide a more stable platform with adequate storage space.

Retrospective Conversion Grant

Atchison County Library - \$82,618—The library will contract with the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) to convert their card catalog shelf list to electronic (USMARC) format.

Digital Imaging Grant

Kansas City Public Library - \$13,704—“Digitizing 19th Century Advertising Cards of Kansas City Companies”—Advertising cards, one of the more picturesque collections in the Missouri Valley Special Collections, provide a rich resource for researching the history of printing, advertising, medicine, fashions, and late 19th century culture.

Spiva Library: Missouri Southern State University - \$7,746—“Riches from the Earth: Geological & Industrial History of Jasper County” – Four organizations are collaborating to create a digital collection featuring 150 photos of Jasper County mines and quarries, along with 25 related documents, letters, stock certificates, trade cards and other archival materials to create an online exhibit on the history of mining and quarrying in southwest Missouri.

Ellis Library: University of Missouri – Columbia - \$62,795—“Agriculture Experiment Station Publications” – The materials to be digitized will include historical bulletins, circulars, special reports and research bulletins that span the past century, from 1888 through 2005, and include 1,879 original publications created by the university’s Agricultural Experiment Station. Subjects include soils, forestry, farms and farming, the environment, energy, the elderly, economic development, animal and crop diseases, and many more.

Videoconferencing Upgrade Grant

St. Charles City/County Library - \$10,468—Funding will be used to upgrade outdated videoconferencing equipment.

Library Staff Receives Recognition for Skills Institute Attendance

Fifty-two Missouri library staff members have been awarded the first Library Skills Institute Recognition Certificates from the Missouri State Library. Since 1990, the Missouri State Library has offered Library Skills Institutes for library staff to learn the basics of librarianship or update their library skills. Library directors from around the state have invested countless hours of staff time for their employees to participate in this continuing education opportunity. Likewise, the directors of smaller community libraries have been attending the Institute to meet the Missouri Public Library Standards education requirements.

The Missouri State Library has spent the last few years developing the Skills Institute into a core curriculum to serve as a foundation for library training. As a way to acknowledge the participants completing the Institute curriculum, the State Library has established the Library Skills Institute Recognition Program.

The entire Library Skills Institute curriculum will consist of one basic skills overview and eight advanced skills courses for a total of nine credits. The eight advanced skills courses include: Cataloging, Classification, Collection Development, Library Administration and Management, Library Services for Children, Library Services for Young Adults, Library Services for Seniors, and Reference Services. These nine core courses will be offered on a rotating schedule in February and August each year to allow library staff the opportunity to complete the Institute program.

Each participant who successfully completes one of the nine courses will receive a Certificate of Completion at the close of the Institute attended. Participants completing five courses will receive a Library Skills Institute Certificate of Achievement. Participants completing nine courses will receive a Library Skills Institute Certificate of Excellence.

In December, the State Library distributed the first round of certificates to each recipient's library director. Library directors will make the official presentation to the recipients so their achievements may be recognized on a local level by library trustees and other staff.

The goal of the Library Skills Institute Recognition Program is for library staff throughout the state to gain a sense of accomplishment for completing their courses, as well as a desire for more advanced training beyond these foundational courses. The State Library, along with other statewide training providers, offers numerous continuing education opportunities throughout the year on a wide array of topics in a variety of formats. While completing the Institute is not a prerequisite for these workshops, it can be a starting point to continued learning.

If you have any questions about the Library Skills Institutes or the Institute Recognition Program, please contact Brenda Sites, Continuing Education Consultant, at 1-800-325-0131, ext. 13 or Brenda.Sites@sos.mo.gov.

Library staff receiving Library Skills Institute Recognition Certificates includes:

Certificates of Achievement

Morayo Aliyu, Moberly Correctional Center Library

Janet Armstrong, Women's Eastern Reception & Diagnostic Center Library

Linda Barfield, Piedmont Public Library

Roxanne Berg, Barry-Lawrence Regional Library

Nancy Bradley, Dallas County Library

Doris Brooks, Potosi Correctional Center Library

Glenda Brown, Salem Public Library

Aimee Brunner, Barton County Library

Liz Cashell, Henry County Library

Shirley Chitwood, Carter County Library

Denise Cooke, Doniphan-Ripley County Library

Judy Cox, Mercer County Library

Sheila Dennehy, Hannibal Free Public Library

Cindy Emory, Pulaski County Library

Judy Epperly, Wright County Library

**National Poetry Web
Site Highlights
Missouri-born Poet**

Poets.org creates guide to
Langston Hughes

Debra Fite, West Plains Public Library
Cathie Forbes, Marshall Public Library
Angee Germann, Carrollton Public Library
Mary Grashoff, Webster Groves Public Library
Eileen Haskamp, Lewis Library of Glasgow
Tonya Hays-Martin, Fulton State Hospital Library
Lois Heiney, Mountain View Public Library
Beverly Holder, Little Dixie Regional Library
Linda Hunter, Butler Public Library
Linda Jamison, Cedar County Library
Tina Johnston, Bonne Terre Memorial Library
Sandra Jones, Kansas City Public Library
Osa Kays, Pulaski County Library
Connie King, Barton County Library
Linda Kropf, Carnegie Public Library (Shelbina)
Dorothy Lore, Washington County Library
Teresa Lucas, Boonville Correctional Center
Mary Merseal, Missouri Eastern Correctional Center Library
Patricia Moore, Bowling Green Free Public Library
Janice Myers, Reynolds County Library

Susan O'Connor, Sullivan County Public Library
Cherry Pasley, Women's Eastern Reception & Diagnostic Center Library
Loretta Polette, Bonne Terre Memorial Library
Carol Rhoads, Jefferson City Correctional Center Library
Janice Richardson, Oregon County Library
Melissa Schuster, Scotland County Library
Linda Schuster, Price James Memorial Library
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Lana Smith, Gentry County Library
Jane Swartz, Fulton Reception & Diagnostic Center Library
Delores Turner, Seymour Public Library
Rebecca Wilcox, Doniphan-Ripley County Library

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